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**TO:** Examiner Shay L. Balsis  
**FIRM:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
**FAX NO.:** (703) 872-9306  
**FROM:** Brian D. Smith, Esq.  
**DATE:** August 2, 2004

**SUBJECT:** Amendment and Response to Office Action:  
In Re Application of **Steinmetz et al.**  
Serial No. 09/841,205; Art Unit: 1744  
Filed: April 24, 2001  
For: **SELF-SHARPENING TICKET SCRATCHER**

**NO. OF PAGES:** 11  
(inc. cover page) Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on August 2, 2004.

1. Amendment and Response to Office Action (total of seven (7) pages)
2. One (1) sheet of drawing containing Figure 6
3. Two (2) pages from Webster's dictionary

  
Brian D. Smith, Reg. No. 30,688

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In Re Application of:

**STEINMETZ et al.**

Filed: April 24, 2001

Serial No. 09/841,205

For: **SELF-SHARPENING  
TICKET SCRATCHER**

Examiner: Balsis, Shay L.

Art Unit: 1744

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO  
OFFICE ACTION**Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 4, 2004, please amend claims 23, 33 and 38  
as follows: